UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/46/548
S/23125
9 October 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-sixth session
Agenda items 29 and 68
THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 8 October 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you a letter dated 2 October 1991 from His Excellency, Najibullah, President of the Republic of Afghanistan, addressed to you (see annex).

I have further the honour to request that the text of the present letter and its annex be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 29 and 68, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khodaidad BASHARMAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 2 October 1991 from the President of Afghanistan to the Secretary-General

For the purpose of creating favourable conditions for the implementation of your proposal submitted on 21 May 1991 aimed at a political settlement of the situation in Afghanistan, and availing ourselves of the opportunity and encouraging the international climate brought about by the joint United States-Soviet statement of 13 September 1991 on Afghanistan, we in the Republic of Afghanistan, pursuant to our previous peace proposals, have put forward a new initiative, i.e., the launching of preliminary elections for the local councils both in the areas under the control of the government and those influenced by the opposition forces.

This initiative contains a mechanism for holding preliminary elections for the local councils, in which all the parties to the conflict would be allowed to participate on a free and voluntary basis. Such elections can serve as a rehearsal for the future parliamentary elections throughout the country. The government welcomes the candidates of the opposition parties, groups and individuals in all constituencies. The government is further ready to embark on preparatory work for such elections in a joint effort with all other parties concerned. We also welcome the role and assistance of the United Nations in setting the date and conducting the elections in all its stages.

With a view to successfully launching the elections, we call upon the international community and the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, as the co-guarantors of the Geneva Agreements and the parties to the statement of 13 September 1991 on Afghanistan, to utilize their prestigious powers for inducing the opposition forces to refrain from further bloodshed and destruction of the country and to urge them instead to contribute to the restoration of peace through cooperating with the government in conducting the proposed elections.

It would not be irrelevant here to stress once again the imperative need for an international monitoring mechanism in order to verify the termination of arms supplies to Afghanistan enunciated in your proposal, as well as proclaimed by the two super-Powers. In our view, this monitoring mechanism should be arranged in such a manner that will help prevent not only arms shipments but also illicit drug trafficking. We are of the conviction that, in the event of the lack of an international monitoring mechanism, the war and bloodshed will continue to be intensified and, as a result, your proposal as well as the United States-Soviet statement on the cutoff of arms supplies will remain on paper. That will no doubt lead to the loss of credibility of the said proposal and statement not only for the people of Afghanistan but also for the whole world community.

We are well aware of the fact that your proposal, as well as the United States-Soviet statement, is aimed solely at the peaceful solution and the restoration of peace in our war-stricken country, but, regretfully, the sad reality prevailing in the field is that the increasing shipments of deadly weapons and ammunitions to Afghanistan are nowadays accompanied by modern war technology, including long-range artillery, armoured battle vehicles and combat tanks.

Such a state of affairs will certainly not only jeopardize your peace-seeking efforts and those of the peace-loving States but it will also result in further killings of our innocent people who have suffered abundantly from the agony of the bloody war going on for more than 12 years now.

It is for that reason that we appeal to you to back up and support your own good offices mission and that of the two super-Powers aimed at a comprehensive peaceful settlement of the Afghanistan issue by sparing no efforts to help in the realization of our aforementioned proposals.

NAJIBULLAH
President of the
Republic of Afghanistan